and Stefano ; and five daughters older than Catherine : Niccoluccia, Maddalena, Bonaventura, Lisa, and Nera. Bartolommeo, the second son, married Lisa di Golio (or, according to others, di Chimento) Colombini, who appears to have been a first cousin of Giovanni Colombini (the founder of the *Gesuati*| and who was destined to be very closely associated with Catherine in her life and work.[1] Of the daughters, Niccoluccia and Maddalena married Palmiero di Nese della Fonte and Bartolo di Vannino, respectively. Such was the refined purity of the atmosphere of the dyer's house that when Bonaventura, the third daughter, married a certain Niccolo di Giovanni Tegliacci, she was so appalled by the licentiousness of the conversation of her husband and his young friends that she fell seriously ill, and was only restored to health by her husband's conversion. This Bonaventura was Catherine's favourite sister. A twin-sister, christened Giovanna, was born at the same time as Catherine, but died shortly after. From her birth, the Saint, who was the only one of her younger children that Lapa was able herself to nourish, was the chief darling and best beloved of her mother out of all the family. She is usually stated to have been the youngest, but Raimondo says : " After Lapa had brought forth Catherine, she gave birth to another girl, who was called Giovanna, to renew the memory of the departed sister of Catherine ; and this was the last, after she had given birth to twenty-five children." [2] This second Giovanna, or Nanna, died when Catherine was sixteen years old ; the entry in the *Libra di Morti* of San Domenico runs : " Nanna filia Jacobi Tinctoris sepulta est die xviii Aprilis, 1363."

As she grew up in childhood, Catherine became the darling of all the district round. " Verily," writes Fra Raimondo, " the

[1] Cf. G. Pardi, *Della Vita e degli Scritti di Giovanni Colombini.* Giovanni sends a message to Lisa in one of his letters (addressed to their cousin, Caterina di Tommaso Colombini, who founded the Gesuate nuns). Lisa's twin-sister Franceaca, like her, became a Dominican tertiary.

[2] *Legenda,* I. ii. i (§ 26). The *Leg&nda minors* (p. 10) makes Catherine Lapa's youngest child. Cf. Grottanelli, *Albert) deUa Famigha Beniitcasa,* in vol. i. of Tommaseo's edition of the Letters.